PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

THE COMMON CAUSE

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY. ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 602.** **LAW-ABIDING.**

VOL. VI., No. **287.**] FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1914. [PRICE 1D.
Registered as a Newspaper

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes and News	469
A Woman's Adventure at the Front	471
The Empire and its Free States	471
A Fine Record. Relief Work in Manchester	472
Correspondence. Civilised Warfare, &c.	473
The Wine Poured Forth	474
War and Lancashire Factory Towns	475
Notes from Headquarters	476
What Some of Our Societies are Doing	478

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 52,000 annually-subscribing members, organised into 602 Societies and Branches, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They utterly repudiate methods of violence and rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN?

Notes and News.

A Women's Hospital for Foreign Service.

There is no service women can pledge themselves to, more worshipful than that of healing. We are all proud of the devotion and heroism of the nurses who have gone on active service, and we rejoiced to know that not nurses only but women doctors, too, had taken out a "unit" for service in France. Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson reports that her hands and those of her helpers have been full ever since they arrived in Paris, and it is clear that the shortage of medical help is causing great suffering everywhere. Now Dr. Elsie Inglis proposes a "National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, Scottish Women's Hospital," and appeals to us for help. Let us give it at once, and with enthusiasm. We could not serve our country better. Many of our soldiers are suffering from wounds, not necessarily dangerous, but liable to become so from the impossibility of keeping them all dressed and cared for as they should be. In sending out Dr. Inglis and her colleagues, we shall be sending of our best.

Details about the scheme will be found in another column. We will only add here that the "Scottish Women" ought to have both the hospitals they ask for—one for France and one for Servia.

A "Women's Patrol Committee."

Quite one of the most important developments arising out of war conditions in this country is the appointment and official recognition of "women patrols." The need for them will be admitted by all who know that, even in times of peace, the temptations of a garrison town are (in the words of Father Bull) *blasting, withering, appalling*. Now, when enormous numbers of newly-recruited young men are collected in camps all over the country, we learn that "the unsatisfactory behaviour" of some women and girls amounts to "a real scandal." The women patrols will do a noble work for both men and women, as much by suggesting to their younger sisters a nobler reverence for themselves and a finer realisation of the need which has brought the men into camp, and the courage and devotion which keeps them there, as by exercising the authority which will be theirs when its use is required.

The Woman's Theatre and *Era* War Distress Fund.

The Actresses' Franchise League has decided to give the profits of the "Woman's Theatre" week to the *Era* War Distress Fund, and the Three Arts Women's Relief Employment Fund. Last year, it will be remembered, the different Suffrage Societies supporting the scheme benefited, and Suffragists accordingly went in their thousands. This year they will support the scheme with the same, or greater enthusiasm, because it will help those who are suffering cruelly from war conditions. The theatrical profession has a peculiar claim on women, because it is the one in which—in spite of hardships and difficulties—the *principle* of "equal pay for equal work" holds good. Also—let us remember—because no Society has been more active in the women's cause than the Actresses' Franchise League! The generosity of actors and actresses in giving their services in time of distress has become a proverb. Let us not forget how hard the war has now hit some of them. We are told that there are only about 200 companies now "on the road," instead of 400 in happier times. This means even more, probably, to the women than the men, whose problem, here as elsewhere, must to some extent be relieved by recruiting. But, for the sake of both, let us do all in our power to make the "Woman's Theatre" week a success. Miss Bensusan (Hon. Organiser, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.) has taken the Coronet Theatre from November 30th, and she wants shareholders to take up the five hundred £1 shares, receiving tickets to the value of £1 5s. for each £1 subscribed. The undertaking was splendidly successful last year, as all Suffragists know. It should be better still in 1914. We shall publish details later. Meanwhile all who are interested should write to Miss Bensusan.

The Prince of Wales' Message.

The Prince of Wales has sent a message of thanks to the nation for the £3,000,000 already raised for the National Relief Fund. We are glad to see that "assisting schemes for male and female unemployment, and perhaps industrial training," are suggested as the most hopeful uses to which the money can be put. Is it too much to hope that, in accordance with this message, the clerical work connected with relief should be done by paid professional workers? That there is great distress among professional women is evident to all who know. Why give them "relief," when it is possible to give them salaries for useful work done? We are aware, of course, of past scandals, when the amount of money spent on the salaries of officials has been out of all proportion to the relief administered by them. But surely we have rushed to the maddest extreme when we invite volunteers to do the work of professionals, in order that more

SNA
X

money may be forthcoming to relieve those professionals from destitution!

Meanwhile, we rejoice to learn that yet another London bank has opened its doors to women.

A New Trade for Women.

All women will rejoice to hear that women are taking up toy-making. This meets what will soon be a real need (for nearly all our toys came from Germany); it is a skilled and interesting business; it will take work away from no one; and it is truly "women's work"! We hope and believe that the new industry will run to beautiful and fanciful toys, and that the day of the Golliwog will be a thing of the past. The trade is an important one from the financial point of view, too. Miss Margaret Ashton, in urging the adoption of a resolution dealing with the employment of women, at a meeting of the Manchester City Council, stated that we had imported £1,000,000 worth of toys from Germany last year.

How to Help—and Not Hinder!

A great many people who are longing to "do something" have been so roundly scolded for doing the wrong thing that they are beginning to look before they leap into any kind of "thing" at all. It is impossible not to sympathise with those who began by making shirts; found they were the wrong kind of shirts; tried another kind, and then were told they were criminals for making any shirts at all. As a matter of fact, it *is* more necessary than most people seemed to realise, not only to "do something," but to do the right thing, and do it well. We rejoice to hear of any sound scheme for the training of voluntary workers, and we recommend the puzzled to attend the course of lectures to be given at the London School of Economics by Mr. C. M. Lloyd and Mrs. Rackham, on "The Relief of Exceptional Distress." Mr. Lloyd is the Secretary of the National Committee for the Prevention of Destitution. Mrs. Rackham is—Mrs. Rackham! What she does not know about her subject is not worth worrying about. The fee for the course is 3s., and application should be made to the London School of Economics, Clare Market, Portugal Street, Kingsway, W.C.

Girl-Guides on "Active Service."

The Girl-Guides are not a much advertised body, and they rarely seem to get much of the lime-light, but we have been struck by the common-sense character of the work they are doing, as noted in their Gazette. Some have undertaken the domestic work of a newly fitted-up convalescent home; others give help in poor homes, or at crêches for the children of women whose bread-winners have gone to the front. They all, apparently, sew and knit and practise ambulance work, and run errands, and do work that doesn't get into the papers, but needs doing just as badly as if it did. They have had a message from the Queen, however, and Her Majesty "feels sure they can give valuable help to their country" in all these ways.

Women and Recruiting.

Women have been urged by many advisers to turn themselves into recruiting officers, and "exercise a pressure of gentle contempt" on young men who do not enlist. We dissent most strongly from the suggestion that women should do anything of the sort, and propose instead that they should persistently call public attention to at least one terrible difficulty in the way of recruiting—the treatment reserved for those whose bread-winner falls on the field of battle. Mr. Barnes (Labour M.P. for Glasgow, Blackfriars) has done a public service in calling attention to this. He asks:—"*What is the amount upon which we should ask a woman to live, whose husband has been taken away from her in fighting for the nation? And what is the amount which we should pay to a man who may come back from the war minus a leg or an arm?*" Let us first find an answer to these questions, and then set to work to get the answer realised.

Widows and Mothers of Soldiers.

At present it seems that the widows of men who have given their lives for their country are entitled to a pension of 5s. a week. It does not seem necessary to add any comment. Indeed, it is hardly possible to say anything without being betrayed into a bitterness we shall all do well to avoid. But this matter *must be put right*, and at once. And to widows must be added mothers dependent on sons who have gone to the front. They have given all. What are we going to do for them? "Something," says the Prime Minister. *But what? and when?*

AN APPEAL FOR THE N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, writes that the activities of the Scottish Federation during the past month have been devoted partly to financing and starting relief schemes in the different Societies, but, above all, to formulating the one special scheme of Relief (the Hospital for wounded on active service) in which all the Societies and their members, and all outside members and friends who are coming forward at this time, are asked to assist.

Already offers of volunteers to go with the Hospital abroad have been received from so many women surgeons, nurses, medical students, and members of voluntary aid detachments, that there is no doubt of success in this way, only the money for equipment and upkeep is needed, to send it away without delay.

It was arranged that donors of £50 could name a bed for a year, and donors of £25 for six months. As the assistance of motor ambulances is absolutely necessary for the efficient and rapid gathering in of the wounded, it is hoped that we may have several of these given to us, to be attached to the Hospital.

Dr. Elsie Inglis, our Hon. Secretary (to whom the initiation of this scheme is due), hopes that if there is a sufficient response by the qualified women of our country to this appeal to help the wounded, she will be able to equip and offer one Hospital unit to the French Red Cross and one to the Servian Red Cross, where we understand there is urgent need of medical assistance. We hope very much that we may be able to arrange the latter Hospital unit, as we are promised the services of Dr. Alice Hutcheson, who was one of those responsible for the Women's Hospital in the Balkan War, and would be able to give invaluable assistance by her knowledge of the country and the people.

At least £1,000 to £1,500 will be required for each Hospital, and we confidently look for a speedy and hearty response to this appeal. The first £50 donation has already come in. Bridge-of-Weir has started a half-crown collection, and the Reigate, Redhill, and District Society has already offered most promptly and generously to provide us with night-shirts, &c. We shall need hundreds of these, also nightingales, pyjama suits, sheets, pillow-cases, and blankets. Subscriptions can be sent to Dr. Elsie Inglis, Hon. Secretary, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock.

THE QUEEN'S "WORK FOR WOMEN" FUND.

The Central Committee on Women's Employment is making progress in its work of devising schemes for the employment of women who have temporarily lost their employment, either wholly or partially, owing to the war; but it is necessary to make it clear that they cannot undertake to be the means of providing employment for women who have not been previously earning wages.

An important side of the Committee's work is the help which they have been able to give in arranging for a better distribution of the trade which is available in the ordinary course. The full value of this work in steadying trade in this way will probably never be known, and it is certainly less picturesque than various more popular methods of dealing with the problem. Following up this policy, the Committee are assisting to place orders for gifts to the troops in such a way as to maintain trade, as far as possible, in the usual channels, and they have been able to prevent the cessation of business in a certain number of cases. One interesting example was the case of a manufacturer whose ordinary business was brought to a standstill by the war, and who, on hearing of the schemes to provide gifts for the troops at the front, took immediate steps to secure knitting machines and a suitable supply of yarn, with the result that an order has been given which will be sufficient to maintain over seventy women in full employment for four or five weeks

Again, an order for the making of 40,000 flannel belts for the French troops has passed through the hands of the Central Committee on Women's Employment, and remunerative employment in the making of these belts is being given to a large number of small workshops which would otherwise be entirely without work.

The Committee have also been able to suggest to manufacturers in certain districts new channels in which their activities might be turned when they have been interrupted by the war. For example, firms previously engaged in making carpets have been induced to produce knitting yarns, for which a demand exists in connection with the requirements of the troops, which is in excess of the available supply.

A Woman's Adventure at the Front.

Suffragist Nurse Passes Through German Lines.

The following is an extract from a letter from Miss Thurston (formerly organiser to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies), written from Brussels on September 29th, in which she says that all English doctors and nurses have been ordered by the Germans to leave the city, and are not allowed to do any nursing. They were unable to get to Ostend, as no one was allowed to go either in or out there, and at the time Miss Thurston wrote were looking out for an opportunity to leave Brussels, though fighting was going on all round, and there did not seem much chance of getting away.

Coming back from the place at the front at which I was working, in order to visit all my scattered nurses, I met with a most exciting adventure. Most of my nurses are in Brussels, but one was at a place about twenty-five miles off, and I was particularly anxious to see her, as I had had no news. So early one morning I set out with a friend to look her up. We started without being noticed, and got into a tram full of peasants which took us to the boundary, near Laechen. Then we walked about a mile, and found a potato-cart going along the road. Its owner gave us a lift for three or four miles and then we walked again. Arriving at a village called M. (it is not safe to mention names) we found it full of German soldiers. They looked at us curiously, but asked no questions, so on we went.

Presently we came upon a whole regiment, busy laying barbed wire across the road, and entrenching themselves behind earthworks. It looked as if we had got into a tight place, but the only thing to do was to go on as if we had as much right there as anyone. So I walked along just as if I owned the earth, greeting an officer in German as I passed, and he evidently thought I was of that charming nationality, for he let us pass. Well, we got quit of the soldiers and walked on to another village called W. It was a lovely day, and the place looked delightfully peaceful, but just as we entered we heard firing quite close—it sounded like shooting partridges—then pom-pom-pom and the mitrailleuses began, and before you could say knife, all the shops were closed and shutters up and doors shut.

Then firing began within 150 yards of us, and a man shouted to us to get under cover quick, so we dashed in with him behind a manure heap; but the owner came out and would not allow us to stay there. He told us to go to the hotel, so we went along, and then five or six German soldiers passed us running for their lives. They brushed against my cloak as they passed, and stopped for a second, and I thought they were going to shoot us; they were horrible to see—a livid sort of yellow, and breathing in deep gasps. They fled on, and then some cyclists, German soldiers, flashed past us, then horses galloping for their lives. A Belgian outpost had surprised a German outpost.

So we went on rather quickly to the hotel; but when the inmates saw us coming they shut the door in our faces. We parleyed through the window, and they said it would be dangerous for them if we came in, so we tried to get out of the village (the mitrailleuses were still firing), but no one was allowed to leave, and the road we had come by was blocked too. For a few minutes we stood in the street, not knowing where to turn. Then a doctor came and bundled us into a convent. Here we waited about half an hour, but then heard that both ways out of the village were blocked, and the nuns advised us to return to Brussels (about thirteen miles away) by a back lane which led out of the convent to the high road eventually. We had walked about two miles down this peaceful country road, seeing no one, when we came to a place where four roads met. There was a woman at a tiny farm, and I asked her the way. She only spoke Flemish, of which I know very little, and either she misunderstood me or I misunderstood her, but I thought she meant we must go down a very muddy little lane—which we did. At the bottom of this was a German sentinel, but we didn't think much of that. I have my brassard stamped with the German Eagle now, so I showed that as I passed, and he saluted and said "Pardon," and we passed on. *Now* I realise that he thought I was a German sister of mercy, my uniform being very plain and black, or else he would not have let us pass, for in two minutes we fell right into the whole German camp—thousands of soldiers, with cannons, wagons, camp-fires, everything.

An officer came up and asked what we wanted. He, of course, at once saw I was not German, so I got out my Belgian Carte d'Identité. My companion did not speak French or German, so I had to do the conversation, and, mercifully, she did not speak or lose her head. He searched us and let us go, but we were right in the thick of them, and did not know how to get out, nor which way to turn. We went the wrong way first, and had to retrace our footsteps. At last we got on to the Brussels road, but had to pass seven sentinels, none of whom guessed we were English, luckily for us, for they hate English much more than Belgians. We were searched twice, and I had to show my Carte d'Identité each time. How glad I was that I had got it stamped with the German Eagle. If it had not been for that, we should never have got through.

We had nearly reached Brussels when an officer came galloping after us, and asked me every question under the sun. I had to say we were English, and he was so astounded at our cheek in walking clean through all the German lines that at last, after scoldings and threats, he let us go, and we got back safe. The account of the skirmish was in the paper; it said several were wounded, which we did not know then.

The Empire and its Free States.

"Where Women Vote."

We have received the following from Miss Jessie Mackay, official correspondent to the N.U.W.S.S. in Christchurch, New Zealand:—

"I had been saving correspondence, hoping to have a sheaf of reform legislation to send you this session. It opened with promise. Most important measures as regards temperance, education, electoral and criminal code reform were before our Parliament, even including a private member's Bill to enable women to enter Parliament. But the thunderbolt of war has fallen; the session will be short, and dominated by defence and expeditionary activities.

Sacrifice and Activity the Watchwords.

"All the country is up and doing about the forces being sent to the homeland. The women are taking a splendid part in fitting out our men and raising funds for their dependants where need exists. Sacrifice and activity are the watchwords of the day. Every luxury is being dispensed with, while there is careful thought about the proper support of trade, philanthropy, and even innocent amusement, so that distress may be minimised. Lady Liverpool, wife of our Governor, at once opened a fund for providing our departing men with comforts and outfits, which is being enthusiastically taken up.

Careful Thought for Those Left Behind.

"A Patriotic Fund for helping families of absent men and workless people is meeting with splendid response; much of its organisation is carried out by women. The Government bears the expense of fitting out and despatching the expeditions. Among the more wealthy classes, the Poor of Britain Fund is being liberally taken up, and preparations made both in money and kind to feed the starving millions* of the homeland.

"The utmost loyalty and *esprit de corps* prevails among us, both as Colonials and as Imperialists. It is felt that the supreme crisis of history has come for our Empire and for the world's ultimate peace, and no sacrifice on our part will be grudged to help those who are guiding British destinies. There is not the faintest echo of Jingoism or self-interest heard; every political and partisan issue has been laid aside. Parliament reflects the admirable attitude of the people, and is labouring at immediate tasks in full co-operation. It is occupied not only with military organisation but with provident measures against needless distress among the people. It has passed a law to prevent mortgages being harshly foreclosed, and other advantages being taken by money-lenders.

Wise Measures to Secure Cheap and Plentiful Food.

"It is also regulating food supplies, so that money may not be made out of the necessities of the public in any later time of scarcity. Farmers are responding to the call to plant extra wheat and potatoes this spring. The most careful regulations are being made to help our departing men, and meet in every possible way the wishes and needs of those who leave. Never was the true ideal of the citizen army of defence so clearly and definitely embodied as in New Zealand at this crisis.

The Lamp of Pan-Britannic Enthusiasm.

"It is this spring which sees the twenty-first anniversary of Suffrage in our country—twenty-one years of unparalleled advance, prosperity, and cordial co-operation in all good and forward measures. A new spirit of activity has wakened among our women this year, largely due to the tragic and momentous developments of feminism in Britain during the last few months. Lady Stout and Miss Bessie Pullen-Burry, F.R.G.S., had conducted crowded and successful meetings in the leading centres, explaining the Suffrage situation, and arousing thoughtful sympathy wherever they went. The Press had been more open to the issues at home than previously, and everywhere interest had been aroused as never before. Now, of course, all minds are intent upon the military crisis. Nowhere does the lamp of Pan-Britannic enthusiasm, with all its steady, democratic, kindly radiance, burn so brightly as in New Zealand. Adversity may shatter us, but never bend or divide us. We will do our part; the rest is in God's hand."

* "Millions" is rather an exaggerated estimate!

A Fine Record.

Relief Work in Manchester.

As soon as war was declared, and everybody realised how serious its effect would be upon the whole community, the Manchester Committee, like other societies in the National Union, offered the services of their workers and staff to the authorities for local relief work. This offer was immediately accepted, and the Manchester Suffrage Office became the Registration Office for the Women Voluntary Workers, who were willing to give their time for any sort of relief work. During the first few weeks, women of all sorts—rich and poor—flocked to the office to register their names. Anti-suffragists and women who had hardly heard, and certainly did not understand, the meaning of votes for women, willingly offered their services through our organisation.

Feeding the Children—

The first demand made upon our workers was to assist in the feeding of the school children of Salford, several thousand being fed daily. For this work we have supplied over 100 voluntary workers. The Education Committees of both Manchester and Salford realised early in the war that they would have to provide meals for the children under school age, and they decided to feed all necessitous children over three years. Nothing was being done for the babies under this age, except those under the immediate care of the School for Mothers, which could not possibly cope with the many hundreds of babies who, owing to the unemployment of the parents, needed food.

—And the Mothers.

It was then that the Manchester Suffrage Society, through their Chairman—Councillor Margaret Ashton—asked the local Relief Committee to extend the work already being done by the Schools for Mothers, and allow the Manchester Society to help to organise feeding stations for the nursing and expectant mothers and babies under three years. This scheme was approved by the Relief Committee, which made a grant from the local Prince of Wales's Fund for the cost of this special feeding.

The scheme was organised under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Niven, and the cases are all dealt with and investigated by the Health Department of the Corporation. Our Committee and organisers found Sunday Schools and similar institutions in different parts of the city, the committees of which were willing to lend their premises free of charge. A special diet for the mothers and children was drawn up by the Medical Officer of Health. The food is provided by a caterer, who delivers it, cooked and ready for serving, at the different centres, where the voluntary workers receive it, and distribute it to the mothers and babies. All food is eaten at the depôts, except in cases of illness, when the voluntary worker may take the food to the woman's house.

How it is Done.

The cost to the Relief Committee of these meals, which are plentiful and excellently cooked, is 4½d. per meal for the mother, and 2d. for the children. Only nursing mothers and expectant mothers (two months before their confinement) are fed. When the mother is unable to feed the baby, bottles of milk are given to her. The cases of mothers requiring food are reported to the Health Department by the doctors, midwives, health visitors, clergy, voluntary workers, &c. They are then investigated, and if found suitable, a ticket with the name and address of the feeding station is sent to the mother. There are now eight special feeding stations in Manchester, and three Schools for Mothers. Last week, 859 nursing mothers and 684 babies were fed. It is only this week, except at the School for Mothers, that the expectant mothers have been fed. This is only part of the maternity scheme. The Corporation have under consideration the whole scheme, as proposed by the Women's Co-operative Guild, and we hope that in the near future they will adopt it.

Work Rather than Doles.

The next piece of work which the Manchester Society was instrumental in starting was a workroom for women unemployed through the war. To organise a scheme for this purpose, the Manchester Distress Committee appointed a Women's Workroom Committee, and a workroom to employ a hundred women was opened on September 4th at the Heyrod Street Mission, Ancoats, which was lent by that committee entirely free of charge.

Wages are paid out of a distress fund in the possession of the Manchester Distress Committee; the women being paid 8s. a week, less 3d. for Insurance. Their working week consists of five days of five working hours, with an additional hour for dinner. Two competent forewomen are in charge of the workroom.

The classes of women employed are chiefly charwomen, dressmakers, and shop hands. The Women's Distress Committee appointed a small Sub-Committee to investigate each case before the applicant was engaged. Only cases of genuine unemployment are taken, the Committee giving preference to women workers temporarily out of work owing to the war.

Between September 9th and 27th the amount which has been expended in materials was £23 9s. 9d. The amount of stock of garments made from these materials during that period is £40 9s., which will be distributed by the Committee to the poor during this winter.

The Committee are also providing a good mid-day meal for the women, for which they pay 1d., the actual cost of the meal being about 1½d. each. The Women's Committee have raised a special fund to meet this deficiency.

The cost of running the room from September 9th to September 25th inclusive was :—

Wages of women workers and forewomen ...	£85	10	10
National Insurance Act Contributions ...	2	18	3
	£88	9	1

A number of women have left to go to permanent work, after being employed in the workroom for a short period.

The women are engaged from the Distress Register at the Women's Labour Exchange, and a small Sub-Committee was appointed to consider the applications of the women sent by the Labour Exchange. This was to prevent over-lapping in the relief work.

The Skilled Worker.

Another class of workers has now to be dealt with, *e.g.*, the skilled workers, such as dressmakers, mantle-makers, good machinists &c., and to meet this need yet another women's committee has been appointed, this time by the Manchester Relief Committee. This Committee, "The Women's Employment Sub-Committee" meets at the Town Hall each week, to consider and carry out schemes for the employment of women. Councillor Margaret Ashton, to whom Manchester women workers owe so much, is the Chairman, and Mrs. H. L. Smith (South Darlington) the Hon. Secretary.

A New Trade for Women.

The scheme this Committee is now organising is the dressing of dolls and the making of stuffed toy animals. This part of the toy trade is almost entirely carried on in Germany, so will not interfere with ordinary trade, or in any way displace ordinary labour. The women will be paid at the minimum rate of 3d. per hour net; this wage to be increased according to the worker's efficiency.

The Committee hope to get their scheme approved by the Central Committee on Women's Employment. They are, however, starting the workroom from local funds, as the dolls, when dressed, are required for the Christmas trade. It is hoped later to extend this scheme to what may be a permanent trade in this country.

THE CASE FOR COOKING *v.* SEWING.

The fact that a very large proportion of the women who are unemployed are those who have been engaged in some sort of needlework shows how difficult it is to relieve distress by means of workrooms without still further dislocating the ordinary industrial organisation. Suffragists have, therefore, tried to devise a method of helping those who are temporarily out of work which would be free from this danger, and of permanent value to the individual and the State. Training in domestic cooking answers all these requirements, and therefore the National Union are now organising a scheme for paying women to learn the most economical and nourishing form of cooking, instead of making clothes for which there is no market. There is no difficulty in finding the food to cook, as many free dinners are being provided all over London by various charitable institutions. There are, unfortunately, only too many women who will be thankful to earn some money by cooking the dinners. The problem is to find enough teachers—and it is for volunteer teachers that the National Union now appeals.

Miss Petty, the "Pudding Lady," has been set free by the "National Food Reform Association" to train teachers, and under her guidance any woman or girl who understands ordinary plain cooking will soon learn the special knowledge which is necessary for this economic cooking. Volunteers are requested to apply to Mrs. Dobell, The N.U.W.S.S. Office, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

Correspondence.

CIVILISED WARFARE.

Madam,—In your leading article of Sept. 18th the desire is expressed that the British people should demand that every single one of the laws of "civilised warfare" should be kept by our Allies and ourselves. Everyone will doubtless endorse this wish, and its fulfilment is possible if the public will give some attention to the matter. For the progress of this war is showing more than ever that public opinion can be the only sanction for International laws. But dealing for the moment only with the burning and general destruction of towns and villages, what are these laws?

Most authorities recognise the United States instructions to her armies in the field as the most complete and remarkable codes of the laws of war. They are also supposed accurately to represent the sentiments and ideas of the civilised world.

Article 15 declares: "Military necessities authorise the destruction and mutilation of armed enemies and of every person whose destruction is incidentally inevitable in encounters with armed force. They authorise the capture of every armed enemy, of every enemy useful to his government, or particularly dangerous to his captor. They authorise the destruction of *all* property . . . the seizing upon *all* that the enemy's country can furnish for the subsistence and security of the army." And a great Continental authority, when commenting, adds (1912): "Devastation, fire, the wilful destruction of establishments, buildings, and in general of all that belongs to the enemy will be authorised when the success of the war undertaken will require it. . . . "

Any ameliorative measures made possible by the 1907 Hague Conference may be disregarded since the Convention for regulating the "Laws and Customs of War on Land" was only signed by the representatives of three of the present belligerents. And at the end of this Convention it is expressly stated that the provisions shall only be binding between the contracting Powers, and not then unless all the belligerents are parties to the Convention.

Three important provisions of the previous Conference, however, remain in force:—

(1) Undefended towns, villages, dwellings, or buildings cannot be attacked or bombarded (military necessity or not).

(2) In sieges and bombardments all necessary measures must be taken to spare, as much as possible, buildings devoted to religious worship, the arts, sciences, &c.

(3) A town taken by assault may not be pillaged.

What "military necessities" may embrace may perhaps be inferred from the by no means exceptional remarks of General Sherman: "The proper strategy consists, in the first place, in inflicting as telling blows as possible on the enemy's army, and then in causing the inhabitants so much suffering that they must long for peace and force their governors to demand it. The people must be left nothing but their eyes to weep with over the war."

Now let us look at the havoc that may be wrought by the defenders themselves before the enemy fires a shot. From "Instructions for the Defence of Open Towns and Villages," &c., I take the following:—

"The first step is to occupy the outer enclosures, and to bar the principal thoroughfares upon the enemy's side, loopholing the buildings, flanking the barriers, construct abattis and shelter trenches, and form a strong 'shooting line' behind the outer enclosures. Clear the approaches to the 'shooting line' for at least 300 yards by levelling houses, hedges, shrubberies, &c., filling ditches, and clearing away whatever may favour the assailants. Cut down wood about 2 ft. 6 in. above the ground and form into entanglements with wire or other means. Complete enclosures round the town by removing some houses, loopholing others, barricading streets, and loopholing the neighbouring houses. When time presses, carts filled with dung with the wheels removed, sandbags, bales of wool or cotton, and furniture taken from neighbouring houses can be used as barricades. A church, a manufactory, a town hall, a market, or any large substantial building should be converted into a keep by blocking up useless entrances, loopholing its walls, and surrounding it by a ditch or abattis."

To such a town or village rendered now almost unrecognisable, what would remain after a few hours' exposure to the almost incredibly destructive power of modern weapons—employed on both sides? Therefore, unhappily, in the present or any condition of a state of war, the situation of the civil population is pitiable in the extreme.

It is more than probable that the German commanders have an International jurist attached to their staff. Japan adopted this course in the Russo-Japanese war. Yet, as we know, that war was the most awful one that up to that time had been waged.

Ada Cunningham.

WOMEN'S PEACE MOVEMENT.

Madam,—Will you allow me to protest against the suggestion contained in Miss N. O'Shea's letter in your last issue, that "women . . . should take some active steps towards peace," and that "now is the appointed time and not to-morrow"? There are greater things than peace and ordered lives—such things as honour and duty, and that love for one's fellows which recognises instinctively that a life laid down that another may live is the noblest offering it is in the power of man to make. It is for these greater things that we are fighting now, lavishly sacrificing lives and health and happiness and treasure to keep the freedom won through the centuries from being crushed by an arrogant military despotism, to prevent the dominion of brute force in Europe.

For years the nations have had to endure the heavy burden of armaments, to be ready for Germany's aggression, and there will be no lasting peace in Europe until such aggression is made impossible. Any suggestion for peace until this is thoroughly accomplished will be not only foolish, but dangerous: the surgeon's knife must not be arrested until the poisonous growth has been completely cut away. We might purchase a few years' respite, and after that have the whole bad business to do over again, and perhaps under much greater difficulties. Let us thank God that our way is made so plain, that we are engaged in this awful war for no small or selfish aims, but for the greatest things we know—Freedom, Justice, Friendship, and Honour; and being in it we must go boldly on until these things are safe from the hands of the despoiler.

Our men are freely giving their lives; do not let us women make their sacrifice of no effect by crying "Peace, peace, when there is no peace." Let us keep our hearts warm, but our heads cool, and, until the object of the Allies in this war has been accomplished, look upon any agitation for peace as a traitorous act.

Emily Williamson.

TRAINING FOR SOCIAL WORK.

Madam,—At the present crisis many women are lamenting their own lack of training for social work, or for other forms of civic service. This feeling found expression in your issue of last week in a letter headed "Training for Social Work," in which a short course of special lectures was advertised. I wonder how many people realise that "Schools of Social Study" have existed for years in connection with the Universities of Liverpool, Birmingham, and Bristol. Students attending these schools give about half their time to University study and half to practical work, most often under the direction of one of the local Settlements. The courses begin in October and last for one year.

This year they promise to be less full than usual. This is curious, as the stirrings of the social conscience are reaching many who have never been reached before. Unfortunately, many of these novices are rushing into work without remembering that the discipline of training is necessary before one attempts responsible work in connection with the most difficult and delicate of all tasks—that of dealing with human beings at times of crisis.

I should like to add another plea. Just now there is so much enthusiasm for "war-work" that Settlements and other agencies are suffering from a lack of workers. It is less romantic to deal with Care Committees, happy evenings, &c., and yet it is of the greatest importance that now, when life feels unsettled, the ordinary channels of work and helpfulness should be kept open. To keep ordinary activities going gives the people a feeling of stability. Many of our best and most experienced workers are inevitably called to the special duties of this time. Training and experience have fitted them to organise and to lead at a time of danger and distress. Is it too much to hope that the newer comers will realise that they are beginners, and will therefore be content to fill some of the gaps in the humbler ranks of social reformers, so that the young and the old, the weak and the weary, may not suffer unnecessarily through loss of recreation, or of advice in difficulty?

M. Cecile Matheson (Warden, Birmingham Women's Settlement).

INFANT MORTALITY.

Madam,—I would like every woman interested in the woman's question to read the article in *The New Statesman* for September 19th, headed "Casualty Lists at Home." What have the women been doing in these seven towns of Lancashire? How many women are on the Boards of Guardians? How many have agitated for reforms? In fact, how have they shown themselves worthy of a vote? Surely this scandal would have been removed if there had been a woman's campaign against it in each of those seven towns. All women in the North and all of us in the South who have been working for our Suffrage rights must feel ashamed.

Elizabeth A Mullins.

[*The article referred to deals particularly with excessive infant mortality due to bad sanitation and bad housing. These matters are not controlled by Boards of Guardians, but by other local authorities, and the very heavy handicap upon women in local government has been exceedingly depressing to women's efforts in the past.*—Ed., "C.C."]

Telephone: BRIXTON 1852.

GEO. WEBB'S DYE WORKS,

Chief Office: **254, BRIXTON HILL, S.W.**

Exhibitor at British Silk Exhibition, 1912. Established 50 Years.

We are celebrated for Cleaning and Dyeing

COURT DRESSES, DAY AND EVENING GOWNS, BLOUSES, CLOAKS, WRAPS, LACES, OSTRICH FEATHERS, FURS, :: :: AND GLOVES. :: ::

GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS. WINDOW HANGINGS, CARPETS, RUGS, CHINTZES, :: AND CRETONNES. ::

Special attention is given to Mourning orders.

Instructions by Post or Telephone command immediate attention.

TESTIMONIALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB,
9, GRAFTON STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
FOR MEN AND WOMEN.
Subscriptions: Country Members (England and Wales) per annum One Guinea. Ireland and Scotland, 10/6. Foreign (Resident abroad) 10/6. No Entrance Fees. London Members (Resident within 15 miles Charing Cross) per annum One Guinea. Entrance Fee One Guinea. **Valuable Lending and Reference Library for Members.** Non-members enrolled as Associates by paying 5/6 per annum. LUNCHEONS, 1s. 3d. DINNERS 1s. 6d.
ALL PARTICULARS—SECRETARY. Tel.: MAYFAIR 3932.

CAUTION.—The Proprietors of Schweitzer's "Cocoatina," "Fairy Cocoa," etc., beg to inform their clients that none of their products are manufactured in Germany; that they are a private English Company, managed by a Board of English Directors; and that all shares are held by relatives and connections by marriage of the late sole proprietor, Captain Thomas Edward Symonds, R.N.

FRIENDS OF ARMENIA
OFFICE AND EMBROIDERY DEPOT:
47, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER.
Hours: 10—5; Saturdays, 10—1. Telephone: 1198 Victoria.
President—The LADY FREDERICK CAVENDISH.
Chairman and Hon. Treasurer—E. WRIGHT BROOKS, Esq.
Hon. Secretary—Mrs. MARY HICKSON. Off. Secretary—Miss B. HICKSON.
LOVERS of fine hand embroideries and real lace will be interested in a new price-list of LINEN goods issued by the
Friends of Armenia, 47, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.
A free copy of this little brochure will be sent post free to any readers of "**The Common Cause.**" Among the articles illustrated will be found very pretty hemstitched and lace-trimmed **Irish** linen pocket handkerchiefs from a shilling each, dainty d'oyleys, handmade needle-lace edgings and insertions, which are sold by the yard, **Irish** linen afternoon tea-cloths, tray cloths, nightdress cases, &c., and lace collars, cuffs and jabots,
Please send to
Miss HICKSON, Office Sec., for a representative parcel.

Typewriting and Shorthand.
(Miss Mildred Ransom.)
Educated Women trained as Private Secretaries.
Careful attention given to each pupil.
Second-hand Typewriters bought and sold.
Meetings reported: MSS. accurately copied. First-class work.
195-197, EDGWARE ROAD, LONDON, W.
Telephone - - 6302 Paddington.

A Special Department for Ladies and Children.
DOWIE & MARSHALL
Shoe Makers,
455, WEST STRAND, LONDON.
Founded in 1824.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK, LIMITED.
Head Office: **7, NICHOLAS LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.**
The Bank collects Bills, Cheques, Coupons, &c., receives Dividends, undertakes the purchase and sale of Stocks, Shares, and Investments generally, establishes Credits at home and abroad, and transacts every description of Banking business.
Strong rooms are provided, free of charge, for the deposit of Deeds and other Securities lodged by the customers of the Bank.
On ordinary deposit accounts interest is paid at the following rates:—
£3 per cent. per annum, subject to one day's notice of withdrawal in respect of not more than £5, and to seven days' notice in respect of the balance.
£3½ per cent. per annum, subject to one day's notice of withdrawal in respect of not more than £5, and to one month's notice in respect of the balance.
£4 per cent. per annum, subject to three months' notice of withdrawal.
Current Accounts are opened in the usual way.
Any further information may be had on application. W. W. HAYES, *Manager.*

THE COMMON CAUSE.

2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. | **Price 1d.** | **Tel. Address: "Homosum, London."**
Telephone: 1910 Gerrard. | **Press Tels.: Office Address.**

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
British Isles, 6s. 6d. Abroad, 8s. 8d. per annum.

Literary Contributions *should be addressed to the Editor,* The Common Cause, *2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor, however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter, and no manuscripts will be returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.*

All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager,* The Common Cause, *2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The Wine Poured Forth.

This paper week by week records the work women are doing in time of war. Week by week the need will become more urgent and the response—we do not doubt—more swift. This land of ours has not yet suffered, and we pray will never suffer, as France and Belgium have, at the hands of the invader; but no country waging war, even victorious war, can escape suffering, and no class or sex will avoid, or wish to avoid, its share. No one, however, can doubt that the burden must fall most heavily on those for whom their country has done least—on the poor, and especially on poor women. The suffering without the glory, "the pang of martyrdom without the palm," is theirs. And where others lose those they love most, these must add to that loss the terrors of grinding poverty for themselves and for their children.

How often have we Suffragists desired to prove our readiness to share in all the burdens of our generation! Our claim has always been for duties rather than rights, and we have always known that if the world could understand this, our cause would be won. Now, perhaps, when we can no longer plead that cause in words, when silence must for a time fall on all political agitations, our lives may be more eloquent than the greatest of public speakers to prove the reality of all we said.

There is no proof like a deed. Half the fascination that militancy exercised over the minds of some men and women lay in that truth. Which of us would not rather do than speak, if we could see how to do rightly?

Here is our answer. Here is a way in which we can live out all we have preached, and no one now will misunderstand us. It is a way of sacrifice, and a way which all can take. The part of women, even in time of war, is still not to destroy, but to heal; not to strike down, but to raise up and support. About our immediate duty there can be no doubt for any of us; it is to give, to work, to share. The most pacific of us should be the first in such sacrifice, that she may prove her love of peace to be not a "self-regarding pacifism," but a self-regardless pity. Those who hate war the most—and what woman is there who does not hate war?—must be the readiest to give their lives to the sacred task of alleviating the horrors of war. It is literally our lives that should be given—our time, our strength, our money, our labour, our love—and not least, our hardest and our clearest powers of thought. So that in time to come our "Common Cause" may be a record, showing how the women of Great Britain and her Empire

"Measured their life by loss instead of gain,
Not by the wine drunk, but the wine poured forth."

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

The War and Lancashire Factory Towns.

We are very hard hit by the war in Lancashire. It came after a period of slack employment in the cotton mills, and found us more ill-prepared than is usual.

The Lancashire cotton operatives are noted for their thrifty habits. Thrift, indeed, is actually a vice with them, as, for instance, when it leads them deliberately to check, through their trade unions, the abolition of half-time mill work by school-children. It is a passion with them to "mek a bit," by which is meant the regular saving of something, "even if it's nobbut a awpeny" (halfpenny). They have, however, a high standard of comfort. They like good food, and clothing, and furniture, and spend freely on these things when fully employed. Should any reader be disposed to grudge them their love of comfortable living, it should be remembered that their work in the mills is long and exhausting, and the physical effects are such that decent living is for them a necessity. A girl from a country village recently saw them for the first time, and as she sat at my living-room window, watching processions of cotton operatives going by, amongst her many wondering and (to me) illuminating comments, one strikes me as relevant here: "How tired they all seem!"

They *are* tired; chronically weary. The hot atmosphere in the mills causes ordinary food which would be relished by country folk out in the fresh air all day, to be rejected as uneatable by the capricious appetites of mill workers. "Summat tasty," is no luxury for them. It is a necessity to enable them to eat at all, and nobody has any right to doubt this who has not worked in a cotton mill and felt its effects.

Nevertheless, incomes are not so large, even in a time of full employment, that slack times can come and leave no effect. It is the fashion in Lancashire for whole families to work. The children begin as soon as the law allows, and there are no idle daughters here—in normal times, that is. The wages of men are much what the wages of men are elsewhere, and the wages of women and children are higher than elsewhere. The latter fact accounts for the high standard of family comfort, for the (comparatively) large housekeeping accounts, and for the thrifty habits. Men and women of the working classes, however, never earn enough at ordinary employment to enable them to have much reserve capital. A short time of cessation of earning means either a dipping into and rapid exhaustion of the small savings, or else, if there are no savings, certain privation and lack of necessaries.

In the case of many Lancashire folk who are elderly, who have had sons and daughters at work for years, they will be, in the Lancashire phrase, "not without money," which means that they probably have a little saved in the Co-op. Society, or in a building fund, or in some other way, and are not in immediate distress. It is legitimate to point out, however, that the case of working folk who have saved money, often by dint of much careful contriving on the woman's part and always by work and thrift, is hard when all this has to be thrown into the melting pot. Their cases and the cases of the receivers of dividends are not on all fours. It is a truism, however, that from the poor is always extracted the uttermost farthing, and that "whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he hath."

The majority of the working class, here in Lancashire as elsewhere, especially those whose children are small and dependent, live from week to week on what they earn, and when the earning suddenly stops, or when it is reduced by 50 or 75 per cent., it should not need much imagination to know what is happening. The practical question is, what can we do to prevent it?

Obviously, the best way is to re-establish and maintain employment. Presumably cotton manufacturers will resume production when such becomes profitable and practicable again. Meanwhile, what is to be done about the cotton operatives? They are decent people, who abhor charity; they want work. Nearly all Lancashire towns very badly need more habitable and healthy houses to live in; this might well form the basis of work for unemployed cotton operatives, and would have far-reaching and lasting benefits after the war is over. Local authorities in Lancashire must somehow be made to follow the lead of the Government and to realise their responsibilities. Cotton operatives are skilled, but in one trade only; and no doubt would be much more trouble than they were worth whilst their soft hands were acquiring a horny crust at other work; but that ought not to stand in the way of providing work for them. To counterbalance the disadvantages would be the exchange of fresh air for that of the mill and the gradual acquirement of new knowledge; the maintenance of personal dignity by earning instead of receiving "relief"; the easing of the burdens of that most tried class in the community—working-class wives and mothers, providing them with the wherewithal to "keep the house door open," and to enable the shopkeeper to pay his rates, and to prevent his dismissing his assistants, by enabling his customers to deal with him.

As to the employment of women cotton operatives—even this should not be beyond the power of people who really want to help. It has been suggested to the Mayor's Committee in my town that work might be found for them (under competent guidance) in feeding the children; in providing cheap meals for people partially employed, and in the work of establishing and maintaining maternity centres. Women who are usually at leisure should remain at leisure, rather than undertake work which could and should be paid for by the municipality. It should be borne in mind that decent people do not want charity, and that the best way of administering the Prince of Wales's Fund would be to institute schemes of work which will preserve the life of non-combatants, and which will occupy usefully and fruitfully the energies of unemployed women and men. In my town the feeding of school children is being undertaken. This is obviously a woman's job—to organise, to provide, to carry out from start to finish. The way we do things here is to send the children to restaurants and to pay the proprietor twopence per head. This is a distinct temptation to him to provide inferior food, or else, as is actually the case, if he is tender-hearted, for him to be out of pocket. During the last few weeks the children have crowded out better-paying customers, with the result that they have had to stand up at meals and have been constantly admonished to "Be sharp!" The effect on their digestions as well as on their manners can be imagined.

To say that this is the best we can do in the way of feeding children is to confess ourselves bankrupt of brains. Any amount of useful work for women lies here and in the care of expectant and nursing mothers, and this is as truly work for the State as any work the fighting man is doing at the seat of war.

Ada Neild Chew.

"Working Women's Clubs."

There must be many members of the N.U.W.S.S. who want "to help," but are puzzled to know what they can do. They have no training in social work; they have very little money to give away; they are rather afraid to keep on sewing and knitting, for fear of taking a paid job from some still poorer woman. There is one obvious need which such women might consider, and that is the formation of very simple "Women's Clubs."

Would it not be possible to set going rivals to the public-houses? I have in mind a very simple club which was, and I believe still is, immensely popular in a working-class district in Birmingham. There was no special attraction about it. One very hot cup of tea and one biscuit were provided for every woman. There were two or three people in charge, who sang songs, or told stories, or read the most interesting bits out of the daily paper, and the women themselves, when the ice was thawed, contributed items to the entertainment. How about premises? Might not the office of the local branch of the N.U. serve in some cases? Or where there is a Maternity Centre or Infant Welfare Society perhaps those premises could be made available.

Such a club is especially needed where there are a large number of wives of men who have enlisted. In many cases it is a fact that these women are in enjoyment of a larger, or at least, a steadier income than they had when their husbands were at home. They are lonely and excited. No wonder we find too many of them gravitating to the public-house.

The important point is that the club should be open every night, so that the women know that there is a place to go to. If there is a piano there that will help in providing entertainment. Or someone might lend a gramophone. But in any case the newspapers provide a perpetual source of interest, and it would be a real boon to have the news read aloud intelligently. It would also be a blessing to many if a table with ink and paper was provided and someone would volunteer to write letters for those to whom spelling is a problem. The wherewithal for mending might also be provided. Firing and light are a consideration, but I suppose that would be covered if a dozen women would subscribe 3d. a week. As to the provision of free cup of tea that must depend upon circumstances. If a halfpenny were charged that would be perfectly fair. There must be a supply of crockery, but if every one gave one cup and saucer, and a few would rise to the gift of tea-pot, milk jug, kettle, and basin for washing up that difficulty would be met. In the

matter of making tea, washing-up, tidying, etc., the members of the club would not grudge their services, but rather enjoy being of some importance.

One thing is essential: that people who start such a scheme and offer to undertake to be on the premises one or two nights a week, should let *nothing* interfere with that undertaking.

Eleanor Acland.

WOMEN PATROLS.

The Rescue and Preventive Committee of the National Union of Women Workers has approached the Home Secretary and the Chief Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, and obtained their permission to organise a force of Women's Patrols to work in the neighbourhood of camps and recruiting stations. Such patrols are urgently needed, many complaints as to the conduct of women and girls around these places having been received. The patrols are to be supplied with a card signed by the Chief Constable, and an armlet.

A "Women's Patrol Committee" has been formed by the National Union of Women Workers' Executive to control the whole work and organise it for London. In the country it is hoped to work through branches of the N.U.W.W., or, where no branch is in existence, to establish a special committee. The question of training and regulations for patrols is now being considered, and volunteers, organisers, and financial help will be gratefully welcomed. Further particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Patrol Committee, Mrs. Carden, 40, Gledstanes Road, London, W.

"THE SPHINX."

Miss Janette Steer is well served by her artists in her clever play "The Sphinx," produced for a limited number of performances at the Court Theatre this week. The piece has a fine metaphysical teaching; a theme that in the theatre sense is new, and bears the hall-mark of truth. Man, she asserts, can only be raised up by woman; he is not alone born of her body, he must be reborn of her soul, if he is to be regenerated. The dramatic deduction of the reasoning is for the most part obscure, so that the story appears to lose its psychic value, and relapses at times into commonplace; but the purpose is there none the less. The first night's performance was extremely interesting, barring the unnecessarily long tirades in the last act the tendency to employ characters as stalking-horses for the expression of the philosophy, instead of allowing it expression through the medium of the action and characterisation. Miss Steer herself made Mary, the idealist, a living woman, and Miss Barbara Everest was beautifully natural as the innocent girl who falls a victim to the sensualist. A fine bit of work was the Cockney girl of Miss Gillian Scaife, and clever flashes of character were furnished by Kitty Marion and Marianne Caldwell. Mr. Langhorne Burton made the husband an individual of flesh and blood, except in the last act, when the characterisation becomes obscure. Certainly "The Sphinx" should be read; and if judiciously cut, and played with pace, ought to ripen into a success.

"THE COMMON CAUSE."

Unemployed Women as Sellers.

The following donations have been received in response to Mrs. Fyffe's letter: Mrs. Beilby, £1 monthly; F.M.W., £2 monthly; Mr. Tindle Anderson, 2s. 6d. monthly; Mrs. Thompson, West Byfleet, £2; and an anonymous gift of £5. Please send some more!

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we can do with any number of volunteers or paid sellers. Every seller should be provided with a poster (to be obtained with the papers), which, when pasted on cardboard, can be slung on the wrist.

Depots Arranged.—Marble Arch Depôt.—Copies can now be obtained at 44, Great Cumberland Place, W., on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, between 2-3 p.m

City Depôt.—Miss Gertrude Cohn, c/o The South-West Africa Co., 1, London Wall Buildings, E.C. Miss Cohn has kindly consented to distribute papers to sellers and receive the returns, &c. Any member who can spare only half-an-hour when passing through the City is urged to call on Miss Cohn, who will give full particulars.

W.C. District.—Mrs. Paul, 45, Regent's Square, W.C., has kindly consented to take charge of the Holborn and S. St. Pancras District. Mrs. Paul will be glad of additional volunteers, as this district contains some splendid pitches. Mrs. Paul will distribute papers to helpers any day except Sunday.

Depots Wanted.—We particularly need depôts near Hyde Park Corner and High Street Kensington Station. People would sell far more than they do if they could obtain copies of the paper on Saturdays and Sundays especially.

Waterproofs—Oilskins
FOR FISHING, SHOOTING, GOLFING, MOTORING.
Write for our Illustrated Pocket Books.
ANDERSON, ANDERSON & ANDERSON, Ltd.
37, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. LONDON.
58-59, Charing Cross, S.W.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss K. D. Courtney.
Miss C. E. Marshall (Parliamentary).
Miss Emily M. Leaf (Press).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.

Secretary:
Miss Crookenden.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Notice: Office Hours.

Owing to the very great rush of work at the National Union, people desiring interviews can at present only be received between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Women's Work in War. The National Union's Public Meeting.

Do readers understand about this meeting? It is not being held merely to give an opportunity to the speakers to discourse on the subject, interesting though it is. The speakers are experts on different branches of war work for women, and women are asked to pay for the privilege of hearing them, *in order that the funds so raised may be devoted to the different kinds of war work now being organised by the National Union.* Workrooms and menderies may be dull, but if the Union did not employ these women, they would starve. The National Union's work does not consist only of running workrooms and menderies. It is trying to live up to its ideal of citizenship. It stands to hundreds of forlorn and distressed women for comradeship and a woman's helping hand when despair threatens and want of food makes many a plucky spirit almost a coward. It is battling against the mass of prejudice that seeks to confine women to certain strait avenues of employment. It is trying to ensure that the women's point of view is represented on every Distress Committee in the country. It is endeavouring to husband to-day the strength of the mothers of the coming generation, that the wastage of war may be repaired by children to be born to-morrow. Throughout the United Kingdom the Societies of the National Union are proving that women are worthy citizens, and its members are everywhere caring for the women who suffer by war. In one place the National Union is teaching the country that soldiers' and sailors' wives merit our gratitude rather than our charity. In another it is fighting the battle of all the mothers of the country by the social work it is doing in the camps of the new army. In scores of little villages up and down the land it is standing by the women who are left behind, helping them to meet the new conditions, leading the way in the movement to "carry on." In London, through its London Society, it has held out a helping hand to the distressed women of Belgium. In Edinburgh, through its Scottish Federation, it is organising a Women's Hospital for active service with one of the allied armies.

This Work is Worth Helping.

It is not showy work that the Union is doing, but every bit of it is work well worth helping. Somewhere in the National Union, almost every reader will find the piece of work that particularly appeals to her of all work that can be done by women in time of war. So readers of The Common Cause, wherever they live, are urged to come to the Kingsway Hall for this meeting, to help the Union's funds by booking reserved seats now, and to bring in their pockets something for the collection. As we announced last week, reserved seats can be booked from 1s. to 5s., at the Active Service League Headquarters, at 50, Parliament Street, and at the N.U.W.S.S., at 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster. The Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, of the War Refugees' Committee, Miss Margaret Ashton, City Councillor of Manchester, Mrs. Hills (Miss Margaret Robertson), Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Auerbach, and Miss Royden will all speak on different aspects of the subject. The meeting takes place on Tuesday, October 20th, at 8.30 p.m.

Active Service League Headquarters. The Shop, 50, Parliament Street, Westminster.

Wanted—Good Boots!

Miss Jetley still asks for boots, and more boots, underclothing in good condition, especially nightdresses. The A.S.L. keeps up its very varied work, and those in charge have reason to know that news of its activities has spread far and wide, for its fame has penetrated to the ranks of the chronically unemployed who drift in among the genuine war cases in the hope of persuading the Active Service Leaguers that the war is responsible for the

fact that they are unemployable. Those who subscribe to the Active Service Fund may be glad to know that the money they send is used for the relief of genuine cases of distress caused by the war, and that those who administer the Fund are distinguishing between applications that are genuine and those that are not. On the other hand, the present crisis reveals the sad fact that hundreds of very respectable people, constitutionally incapable of earning their own living, are always in difficulties, and that the only form of adequate relief that will touch such cases is the provision of training in some employment for every girl when she is young, no matter whether she expects to earn her own living or to be provided for by others. In time of crisis all that can be done for such people is to afford them hospitality.

How the Wives Suffer.

The A.S.L.'s card index is a tragic women's diary of war. Almost all classes suffer somehow. During the week a young British wife, shortly expecting to become a mother, came to Headquarters to ask for advice and help. Her husband travels on the Continent for Russian and German firms. They were in Berlin when war broke out. He was taken prisoner; she was sent home. She has no means of communication with his firms, and, even if she had, it is more than likely that their business has been suspended, and that they would be unable to help her. Her little stock of ready money was exhausted. She had no friends in London. Fortunately, the National Union's splendidly elastic hospitality register contained a potential home for her. She is now being looked after and cared for, and her hostess is doing the best she can to make life look rosy for a wife whose husband is a prisoner in an enemy country.

Post as Housekeeper Wanted for a French Lady.

Mrs. Streeter reports a rather similar case. A French lady, whose husband is a contractor in India, is in great distress in England because her husband's business has been ruined by the war, and he has been unable to send her the usual remittances. She is not a young woman, but she is anxious to obtain a situation as housekeeper, where she would receive a home in return for her services. Mrs. Streeter has great faith in an application of this sort in the columns of The Common Cause, and with good reason. In response to her appeal for a home for a small boy last week, she has received no less than twenty offers. The boy is now installed in a house comparatively near his own home, where his mother can remain in touch with him. There are good prospects of obtaining homes for several of his brothers and sisters during the family crisis.

Home and Education Offered to Belgian and French Girls.

Does any reader know of two Belgian or French girls, orphaned by the war, who are in need of permanent homes? Mrs. Streeter has offers, from two different families, of a home for a Belgian girl, who would be brought up and educated with the only child of the house. Miss Griesbach also has a question to ask, which will probably inundate her with replies. Does anybody living in or near Westminster want a thoroughly efficient charwoman, who can be heartily recommended?

Work Wanted, in London, for Women Clerks.

Miss Griesbach has a number of women clerks on her books, who badly need work, but it must be work in London. So many of these girls help to keep a home together for mothers and sisters, and cannot, without breaking up that home and all the expense entailed, accept posts in the country. It is often possible for two or three children to keep a home going together, but if one has to go out of London, it means that the rent cannot be met. Few earn enough to keep a mother singlehanded.

Some Pressing Needs.

This week's pressing needs are rather large items, and had better be considered separately. They are a House and a Horse!

The House.

There seems no lack of temporary hospitality for professional people in difficulties owing to the war. But the war will not be over in a few weeks, and many professional women will be out of work till the war ends, and others will be on reduced pay. The problem is always the problem of rent. So the National Union has a scheme to run a hostel for professional women, where living expenses will be reduced to the vanishing point. A housekeeper is already in view. Many country members would help to stock the larder, and town members to replenish the storeroom. What is wanted is a big furnished house, to be lent—preferably one with not too much furniture in it, and with a number of small rooms that could be turned into bed-sittingrooms. Women who work themselves will at once realise how much easier it is for a professional woman to do her work if she has a little quiet home of her own—however kindly she might be treated as a guest in another woman's house. Can anybody supply such a house? Offers should be sent to Miss Courtney, at Headquarters.

The Horse.

Common Cause readers will remember the National Union Van. At present it is doing nothing. But it is desired to press it into the useful service of collecting and distributing food, probably in connection with the National Food Fund. Its services are wanted. A driver has been found—its old driver—at all events temporarily. But there is no horse. Can anybody supply a horse, too old or too young to go to the front? And a stable? And fodder? Inquiries have been made, and it is found that it would cost 50s. weekly to hire a horse in livery, and to house the van and have it kept clean. But a horse can be hired for a guinea a week, if stabling, and fodder, and dressing be provided by the hirer. Offers are wanted either for the loan of a horse with stabling, feed, and housing for the van; for the cost of hiring a horse in livery; or for stabling and keep, and housing of the van, if the National Union hired the horse. The van has the title of the National Union emblazoned all over it in the colours. By sending it to do this useful work we should also be keeping before the public the fact that the National Union is actively engaged in relief work, and it is felt that this innocent form of advertisement might have a considerable effect on the Active Service Fund, without a constant replenishment of which the relief works cannot go on. The van would carry, on all its journeys, a member of the Active Service League, who would supply any information about the Union's work, and who would never refuse a donation.

The Menderies.

Grateful thanks to Lady Gorst for a gift of material for servants' dresses and children's clothes, for the workrooms. Miss Beaver, of the Menderies, is anxious for more mending and patching, but she reminds patrons that as the work is charged for by the hour, it is not in the financial interests of her clients to send her garments that consist largely of holes, and require creation rather than repair.

ACTIVE SERVICE FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	1,472	2	1
Dr. Helen Wilson ...	2	0	0
Miss Agnes H. Brook ...	10	0	0
Miss Margaret Hare ...	5	0	
Mrs. Bellby	10	0	0
F. M. W.	100	0	0
Miss Ethel A. Sugden ...	5	0	0
Mrs. J. C. Pearson ...	10	6	
Mrs. W. H. Perry ...	2	6	
Miss D. L. Bakewell ...	5	0	
Mrs. Savery	5	5	0
Miss V. Volkhovsky ...	10	0	
Miss Helen Scott ...	2	6	
Miss K. Craven Hodson (2nd monthly donation) ...	2	0	0
Miss J. Allen	10	0	
Miss Radford	10	0	
Mrs. G. H. Garrett ...	5	0	0
Miss V. C. C. Collum ...	17	6	
Miss M. E. Franklin ...	1	0	0
Filey W.S.S.—			
Miss Martin	2	0	
Mr. B. A. Smith	2	0	
Mrs. Ellison	5	0	
Miss Moran	6	0	
Mr. Marriner	2	0	
Miss Twigg	1	0	
Mrs. Atkinson	1	0	0
Miss Whitehead	10	0	
Mrs. Beck	2	0	
Mrs. Harold Brown ...	2	6	
Mrs. R. W. Smith	2	6	
Mrs. Foster	1	0	
Mrs. Southwell	1	0	
Miss Newsom	5	0	
Mrs. E. W. Creswell ...	5	0	
Mrs. H. R. Maynard ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Rintoul	1	0	0
Miss Gertrude Burgess ...	10	0	
Mrs. T. G. Selby	1	0	0
Mrs. Parkinson	10	0	
Mrs. Mitchell	5	0	0
Mrs. Johnston (2nd donation)	5	0	0
Mrs. Morgan (1st monthly donation)	1	0	0
Miss Mabel Crookenden ...	1	0	0
Miss Annie Lawrence ...	5	0	
Mr. J. A. Morton (2nd donation)	5	0	
Mrs. W. G. Tarrant	1	1	0
Miss C. M. Richardson ...	10	0	
Anonymous (2nd instalment)	15	0	
Miss Mabel A. Hodge	10	6	
Mrs. John Marshall	3	0	0
Mrs. H. B. T.	2	0	0
"A Friend," per Miss Beryl de Zoete	5	0	0
At 50, Parliament Street—			
Miss B. L. Hutchins	2	0	0
E. C. B.	5	0	0
Miss P. G. Fawcett	15	0	0
Mr. T. Durst	1	0	0
Miss B. L. Harris	3	0	0
Mrs. Arthur Whitting ...	5	0	0
Miss Sidwill		2	0
Anonymous	2	0	6
	£1,681	17	1

As an optician of professional standing, I do not claim to be the "best on earth." But I do claim to be a good optician, that I know my business and that you can safely entrust your eyesight to my care, relying on my 20 years' experience of sight-testing and practice of fitting glasses by the latest and scientifically approved methods.

Write or call for Booklet C. free.

R. S. NEUMANN,

72, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Telephone: 7600 Gerrard. Gold Medals: Milan (1906) London (1908).

I guarantee every pair of glasses for ten years.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

The Dundee Women's War Relief Fund Committee.

1.—Organisation.

After the outbreak of the European war, the Dundee Women's Suffrage Society offered its entire organisation—office, staff, and the services of its members, to the City of Dundee, to aid in any municipal schemes that might be started for the relief of distress caused by the war. This offer was publicly accepted by the Lord Provost at a meeting of the Dundee women, called together in the Town Hall.

A large committee of women was then formed, with Lady Urquhart, wife of the Lord Provost, as convener, and with Miss Mary Henderson, Hon. Secretary, Dundee Women's Suffrage Society (N.U.W.S.S.), as Hon. Secretary, a committee that aimed at including members of all the organised bodies of women in the City of Dundee. In this way all shades of opinion were represented, and Suffragists, Anti-suffragists, Conservatives, Liberals, Socialists, and women of every variety of religious denomination have worked together during these anxious weeks in complete harmony, willingly subordinating all political and other prejudices to the common need for co-operation at this time of national distress. The committee so formed called itself the Dundee Women's War Relief Fund Committee: it is an entirely unofficial body, administering its own funds collected among its members and their friends, and having only a secondary connection with what is generally known as the Prince of Wales's Fund Committee.

At first all work was done directly through the central office, which occupies the rooms of the Dundee Women's Suffrage Society at 27, Bank Street. But very soon these quarters were found far too narrow for the rapidly increasing scope of the committee's work, and an extensive organisation has been arranged through the city by the formation of branch depôts, one in each of the eleven municipal wards, and each with its own ward committee and officials, who direct the energies of the large body of volunteer workers in their particular districts. These ward committees remain under the superintendence of the Central Committee at 27, Bank Street, where a large band of voluntary workers, amongst whom are a number of the Girl Guides and Boys' Brigade, assist in receiving, checking, and dispatching to proper quarters, the work sent in by the wards.

The general committee is formed from members of the ward committees, and they come together to discuss their general policy once a week in the Town House, thus taking advantage of the ancient right of citizens to use the Town House for meetings on the public behalf.

2.—Activities.

This extensive piece of organisation is by no means too large for the work that it is called on to perform. The following is a brief account of some of its main activities:—

1. *Collecting garments for soldiers and sailors on service, for Belgian refugees, and for the poor of the city.*

There has been an enormous response to the War Office request for socks and shirts. Since the formation of this committee some 10,500 pairs of socks have been received at the central office, and dispatched to the men: there have been received 2,000 day-shirts, 400 night shirts, and a supply of helmets, belts, mits, tobacco, soap, boot-laces, &c., in proportion. The receiving of these articles, and the sorting, checking, packing, addressing, forwarding, and acknowledging of them form a very heavy piece of work.

2. *Employment of paid women's labour for the knitting of socks and making of shirts.*

Even before the Queen's employment scheme was started, it was realised by the committee that the great output of home-made clothing by enthusiastic work parties might threaten the workers in the factories and increase the risks of unemployment. The jute trade, which is the staple industry of Dundee, has so far suffered little by the war, and there is very little real unemployment, though there is a good deal of short time work, which in a town where female labour is so extensively employed, and wages consequently low, may mean a serious menace. A number of women have been engaged by the committee, through the Labour Exchange and privately, to knit socks and make shirts at standard prices. It is hoped that this part of the committee's work may be very largely extended as its importance becomes clearer to the public.

3. *The committee have instituted numerous unofficial bureaux in the wards for the employment of women, and they have been able to give advice and help in many cases.*

4. *They also supply helpers to aid the work of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association in the district.*

5. *They have made arrangements for the washing and mending of the clothes of Territorials stationed in the district.*

6. *A number of entertainments for the men have been given, and a club-room is being started for them.*

7. *An interpreters' corps has been formed.*

3.—Funds.

It must be understood that the funds on which this committee depends have been collected and subscribed for these particular purposes, and have nothing to do with the Prince of Wales's Relief Fund. In addition to individual subscriptions, a sum of money was raised by a very successful concert given in Broughty Ferry.

4.—The Prince of Wales's Fund.

So far there has been little unemployment, and with scant distress in Dundee, the Prince of Wales's Fund Committee has not yet allocated its funds. Three representatives of each ward committee of the Dundee Women's War Relief Fund Committee are also to serve on the official ward committee of the Prince of Wales's Fund Committee, so that when the time for expenditure comes there will be a very substantial body of feminine opinion in the Council.

Birmingham Clothing Depot.

"I have just had an order for 1,000 shirts and 900 blankets for two hospital ships," said Mrs. Jesper, the Suffrage organiser of the Birmingham Lady Mayoress's Depôt for clothing, when I looked in one day this week.

"We can't get surgeon's overalls fast enough," she added, "and we have bought up all the men's cardigan jackets in the city."

I looked at the great racks eight feet high, into which boy scouts (the work is too heavy for girl guides) were packing yet more and more sorted garments of every description, hospital requirements, field necessaries, women's and children's clothing for the poor, and wondered how one head managed it all. There was the heavy post each morning, including such varied matter as letters from the War Office, Lady French, and a poor woman asking if a pair of baby's socks would be of any use. There was the complicated booking of all garments received, sorted, and sent out. The cutting out and selling of patterns, and what this means can be imagined when 15s. worth of 2d. patterns are sometimes sold in one day. There was the supervision of all the voluntary clerks, helpers, and the boy scouts, and boys will be boys sometimes, even scouts! And last, but truly not least, the endless answers to the unceasing stream of inquirers, the packing and sending off of orders, the committee meetings, and the dictating replies to letters.

Mrs. Jasper was the leader of the Active Service League before she took on *active* service indeed for this great piece of work. Men as well as women are on the committee, Suffragists and Antis work happily together, but the only paper or magazine I noticed in this teeming hive of industry was The Common Cause; and everywhere I saw the familiar badge.

In one week garments were sent to one army hospital, two hospital ships, two battleships, one battalion, and the committee for the Belgian refugees; and every ten minutes huge parcels keep arriving all the day long, and we never have enough. Two motor cars fetch and carry to and from a distance. Truly a big piece of work for one woman to organise!

One cannot help being struck with the fine spirit of the whole thing; no one is chafing at having to wait her turn; humbly the elderly lady is learning from the girl who is showing her how the paper pattern for a shirt meant for a patient with an amputated right arm should be put together. Punctually as the clock the voluntary workers are in their places. Patiently the same answer is given for the hundredth time in an hour to a fresh inquirer.

Much of the stock that came into the Depôt had been bought in the ordinary way; a great deal, of course, has been made by sewing parties, and some we are able to put out and pay for from donations given for the purpose. But the garments are there; they are being bought, made, and given continually. Often the making has been paid for by the donor; in any case the need is urgent, and here it is being supplied as fast as human hands can supply it, in a well-organised and systematic manner.

Rochdale.

On October 2nd a deputation organised by the Rochdale branch of the N.U. was received by the Health Committee of the Corporation with a view to urging them to establish a Maternity Centre in the town on the lines of the L.G.B. Circular.

Miss Lydia Kemp, President of the Society, introduced the deputation, and made a comprehensive opening speech. She was followed by Mrs. Peters of "The Ladies Charity" which is doing a little Maternity work in the town, Mrs. Peters told what was already being done, and stated that her Society would be willing to merge its work into that of the Municipality. Mrs. A. Nield Chew, who represented the National Federation of Women Workers and the Women's Labour League, spoke of the need of such a Centre and urged that the wisdom and knowledge of working class mothers was at the disposal of the Health Committee and should be made full use of in any projected scheme.

Mrs. Elliott represented the Mothers' Union, Nurse Clarkson the Midwives Association, and Mrs. Greenwood the local Co-operative Guild.

The representations made by the deputation were strongly supported by the Medical Officer of Health, and after a general interchange of questions and answers the ladies were thanked and complimented by the Chairman on their presentation of their case and were assured of the sympathetic consideration of the Committee. The local paper states that after the withdrawal of the deputation the M.O.H. was instructed to present a report on the proposed scheme to a a future meeting.

Meanwhile, the local N.U. has decided to educate public opinion, and is organising a public meeting. The Pioneers' Co-operative Society is granting the free use of its Assembly Hall for this purpose; Dr. Olive Claydon of Oldham has promised to speak. Lady Rochdale will be in the chair, and it is hoped that the M. O. H. will also speak.

Strong resolutions have been sent to the Town Council urging the immediate need of such help for mothers and babies in view of the great distress caused by the war, from the local War Emergency Committee, composed of delegates from all the organised workers in the town; and delegates from this committee have sought for a recommendation to be sent to the Town Council from the Mayor's Citizen Committee, only to be ruled out of order, which makes the work of the local N.U. in this connection the more useful and valuable. The pity is that while the necessary steps are being taken, the mothers and babies are suffering irretrievably.

Forthcoming Meetings.

OCTOBER 9.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Play, "In Time of War" (Miss F. R. Raeburn)—Recitations, Miss Lilian Brotchie, Miss Oswald; violin, Miss May Lawson—Tickets, 1s. and 6d. 4.0

OCTOBER 10.

Bradford—Greenfield Congregational Church School Room—Jumble Sale—Admission, 1d. 3.0—7.0

OCTOBER 14.

Bradford—Weekly "At Home" of Society—Lectures, Discussion, Sewing, Knitting, every Wednesday.

OCTOBER 16.

Edinburgh—Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Gunn, 22, Craigmillar Park—Miss Alice Low on "Recent Experiences in Germany" Afternoon
40, Shandwick Place—Mrs. Graham on "The Work of the Red Cross" 4.30

OCTOBER 17.

Bradford—Saloon, Mechanics' Institute—Public Meeting—Speaker, Miss Maude Royden—Subject, "Women and War," "A Neglected Duty" 8.0

WHY KEEP USELESS JEWELLERY?

The large London Market enables
ROBINSON Bros. of
5, Hampstead Rd. (nr. Maple's), W. & 127, Fenchurch St. E.C.
To give best prices for OLD GOLD and SILVER JEWELLERY, GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, PEARLS, EMERALDS, SILVERPLATE, ANTIQUES, &c., in any form, condition, or quantity. Licensed valuers and appraisers. Telephone, 2036 North.
ALL PARCELS receive offer or cash, by return post.

WANTED.—Orders for Cut Flowers, Wreaths, Room Plants, Window Boxes; Care of or laying-out of London Gardens. Also Home-made Jams, that more employment may be given during the War, instead of less.
WOMEN'S GARDENING ASSOCIATION,
62 and 64, LOWER SLOANE STREET.
ORDERS PLACED FOR COUNTRY PRODUCE

A LARGE VARIETY OF
ART POTTERY
AT
MRS. BERRY'S,
72, JUDD STREET, W.C.
(One minute from St. Pancras Station.)
Cornish and Devon Ware.
Old English Patterns in Leadless Glaze.
Please call and see if you do not find the very thing you want.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.

SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE (N.U.W.S.S.) Clearing House for Voluntary Workers and Information Bureau, 58, Victoria-street, S.W. Donations for the Society's Women's Service Fund urgently needed by the Treasurer, Honble. Mrs. Spencer Graves.

POSITIONS VACANT.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT to act as Manageress-Housekeeper at private sanatorium; good disciplinarian, caterer, and carver; commencing salary £60 a year.—Particulars to and from Dr. S. V. Pearson, Sanatorium, Mundesley, Norfolk.

WOMAN GARDENER, willing to entirely manage kitchen garden and poultry in Somerset, in a nice home.—Address "S.," 18, Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, for winter, experienced worker among women, girls, for villages in North Norfolk.—Apply, with qualifications, stating salary, Mrs. Monement, Cley, Norfolk.

POSITIONS WANTED.

EXPERIENCED GENTLEWOMAN desires post as superintendent or manageress, institution or club; accustomed to staff of servants; or would accept post as housekeeper or companion to delicate lady; good needlewoman; personally known to and recommended by Manager of COMMON CAUSE.—Apply "E. S.," COMMON CAUSE Office.

SITUATION WANTED as Housekeeper; middle-aged, good references; wages £15 per year.—"B.," Nil Desperandum, Leigh Beck, Canvey-on-Sea, Essex.

YOUNG LADY (26) desires post as Companion-help; first place; small salary.—Apply P., 30, Earlsbrook-road, Redhill, Surrey.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKERS. Special facilities, exhibitions. Ladies' society with excellent business premises, offer exceptional opportunities for business. Large clientele.—Box 3,441, "C.C." Office.

MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A., recovers overpaid Income Tax, buys or sells Stocks and Shares, effects all kinds of Insurances and Annuities, Mortgages, Loans, or Reversions, or any business of a legal or financial nature.—Hampden House, 5, Kingsway. 'Phone: Central 6049.

MEDICAL.

CERTIFIED MASSEUSE.—General, deep massage for rheumatism and constipation, Swedish exercise, and face treatment. A free trial given by appointment. Terms moderate.—Mrs. Cooper, 45, Alwyn-avenue, Chiswick, W.

FULLY TRAINED NURSES supplied at any time. Telephone night or day.—Apply Superintendent, 61, Gloucester-crescent, Gloucester-gate, N.W. Telephone: 6770 Hampstead.

ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY, 69, Upper Street, N.

MR. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,
Mr. FREDK. G. BOUCHER, Asst. Dental Surgeon. Estd. 35 Yrs.
Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man.
Nurse in Attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No show case at door.
CONSULTATION FREE. Telephone: North 3795.

PRINTING, &c.

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.—R. Crombleholme, General Manager. Enquiries solicited.

MOTORING.

MISS A. PRESTON
Teaches Motor Driving, "Running Repairs," Country Pupils. Officially recommended by the R.A.C.
2, ST. MARY ABBOTT'S PLACE, KENSINGTON.

TYPEWRITING.

MARY McLACHLAN, Typist, 4, Chapel Walk, Manchester.

TYPEWRITING, TRANSLATIONS. Best work. Special terms to Suffragists.—Mrs. Marks, The Moorgate Typewriting Co., 63, Finsbury Pavement, E.C. Telephone, 5638 London Wall.

LAUNDRY.

BUSH HILL PARK STEAM LAUNDRY, 19-20, Second-avenue, Enfield. Proprietor, Miss M. B. Lattimer. Best family work, under personal supervision of trained experts. Open-air drying. Hand-done shirts and collars. Specialities: flannels, silks, fine linen, laces, &c. Prompt attention to parcels sent by post.

DRESSMAKING, MILLINERY, &c.

CORSETS MADE TO ORDER, from 12s. 6d.—Emilie, 17, Burlington Arcade.

LACE cleaned, mended, transferred. Many testimonials.—Beatrice, "C.C." Office. (No postcards.)

MISS BAXELL, 19, Richmond-rd., Westbourne-gr., W. Inexpensive day and evening gowns. Coats and skirts. Blouses Remodellings. Ladies' own materials made up at moderate prices.

MADAME VINE, Milliner, 34, Kirkdale, Sydenham. Ladies' Toques a speciality.

MORA PUCKLE will make up customers' own material during September in order to keep her staff of workers together; embroidered dresses, coats and djibbahs, tailored coats and skirts.—392 Oxford-st. (opposite "Times'" Book Club), entrance Gilbert-st.

TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.—Latest West-End and Paris styles, from 3½ guineas. Patterns sent on application.—H. NELISSEN, Ladies' Tailor, 14, Great Titchfield-st., Oxford-st., W. (near Waring's).

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

ATHEENIC UNDERWEAR is all wool, guaranteed unshrinkable, and gives lasting wear. Write for patterns and buy direct from the actual makers at first cost.—Dept. 10, Atheenic Mills, Hawick, Scotland.

BUSINESS AS USUAL during the present War Crisis.—Second-hand clothing wanted to buy for cash. Costumes, skirts, boots, underclothing, curtains, gents' suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description. Parcel sent will be valued and value sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-st., Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HAIR FALLING OFF.—Lady who lost nearly all hers, and has now strong, heavy growth, sends particulars to anyone enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—Miss C. C. Field, Glendower, Shanklin.

WHITE ART LINEN REMNANTS, lengths from ½ yard, specially suitable for Drawn Thread Work, &c., only 5s. per bundle; postage 4d. extra. Write for Free Catalogue, Hutton's, 159, Larne, Ireland.

POULTRY, PROVISIONS, CONFECTIONERY, &c.

ARTHUR'S STORES,
114-120, WESTBOURNE GROVE, W.
GENERAL PROVISIONS. HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.
All Cakes and Pastries of finest ingredients by own Bakers

TABLE POULTRY, EGGS, FRUIT.—Best quality; reasonable prices; carriage paid.—Misses DAVIES & JANES, Reed End Farm, Royston, Herts.

TO LET.

BED-SITTING or Bed and Sitting-room in clean, quiet house; close train, tram, 'bus; suit ladies.—Howe, 18, Elderfield-road, Clapton.

CLOSE SWISS COTTAGE.—Nice room to let. Small private family. Board optional.—A. D., c/o Miss Fuller, 52, New Bond-st.

FOR SIX MONTHS OR MORE.—Lady's Furnished Flat, sitting-room, two bedrooms, kitchen, gas stove; light, airy; top of well-kept house; £1 weekly.—Miss Bobly, 75, Elgin Avenue, W.

LADY (worker) would like to meet with another to share flat, or one who requires large furnished room; three minutes from Finchley-road, London, N.W.—Box 3,451, COMMON CAUSE Office.

TO WOMEN WORKERS.—Bedroom or Bed Sitting-room, with partial board, in lady's maisonette, Hampstead; quiet, pleasant; near Tube.—Box 3,452, "C.C." Office.

TO LET, Furnished Bungalows near sea; three rooms, 7s. 6d. weekly; six rooms, 15s. weekly.—"B.," Nil Desperandum, Leigh Beck, Canvey-on-Sea, Essex.

WOMAN JOURNALIST, South Hampstead, offers small bed-sitting-room, nicely furnished, with use of pantry and kitchen; 7s. weekly.—"M. M.," "C.C." Office.

WANTED.

WANTED, small Furnished Flat, with attendance and good lighting, in Kensington; 15s. to £1 inclusive, weekly.—Apply Box 3,456, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WHERE TO LIVE.

BROOKLYN PRIVATE HOTEL.—Earl's Court Square (Warwick Road corner), finest centre all parts; 12 minutes Piccadilly; quiet, separate tables; strictly inclusive terms from 5s. 6d. day, 35s. weekly, B. and B. 4s. 6d.; private sitting-rooms, 2½s.; electric light throughout; garage. Tel: 344 Western.

LONDON.—Guest House, 31, Oakley-square; quiet, central; board optional; vegetarian and ordinary diet; room and breakfast, 2s. 6d.; weekly, from 12s. 6d.

HOSTEL for lady workers, students, and others; central and convenient for all parts; terms moderate.—Miss Sullivan, 59, Albany-st., Regent's-pk. (Portland-rd. Station, W.)

HOSTEL FOR STUDENTS, Professional Women, and other Ladies. Near British Museum, University College and Women's School of Medicine. Central, quiet.—Miss H. Veitch-Brown, 6, Lansdowne-pl., Brunswick-sq., W.C.

PRIVATE HOTEL FOR LADIES. Very quiet and refined, 15, St. George's-sq., Westminster. Bedroom, breakfast, bath, and attendance from 4s. 6d.—Write, or wire, Miss Davies.

THE NATIONAL UNION.

ACTIVE SERVICE FUND.

I enclose Cheque / Postal order for £ : s. d. for the Work organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in relief of distress caused by the war.

Name _____
(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other Title.)

Address _____

Cheques to be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Auerbach, crossed London County and Westminster Bank, and sent to the N.U.W.S.S., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

WOMEN'S WORK IN TIME OF WAR.

PUBLIC MEETING

ORGANISED BY

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies,

KINGSWAY HALL

(KINGSWAY, W.C.)

Tuesday, Oct. 20th, at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mrs. FAWCETT, LL.D.,

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton,

Miss Margaret Ashton, Mrs. Auerbach, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Hills (Miss Margaret Robertson), Miss Mary Macarthur, Miss A. Maude Royden,

AND OTHERS.

Organist: **Mrs. MARY LAYTON, F.R.C.O.**

ADMISSION FREE: Reserved and Numbered Seats, **5/-** and **2/6**, Reserved (unnumbered), **1/-**. Tickets can be obtained from the N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster (Tel. 1960 Victoria); also at 50, Parliament Street, S.W.; and at the Hall.

The Proceeds of the Meeting will be divided equally between the Queen's Work for Women Fund and The Active Service Fund of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Printed by the National Press Agency Ltd., Whitefriars House, Carmelite St., London, for the Proprietors, The Common Cause Publishing Co. Ltd., and Published at 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. *London:* George Vickers. *Manchester:* John Heywood; Abel Heywood & Son; W. H. Smith & Son. *Newcastle-on-Tyne:* W. H. Smith & Son. *Edinburgh and Glasgow:* J. Menzies & Co. *Dublin and Belfast:* Eason & Son.